

Building strong  
healthy communities



# inside HOUSING

News, tips and tools from the Seattle Office of Housing



Greg Nickels, Mayor  
Katie Hong, Director

FEBRUARY, 2004  
[WWW.SEATTLE.GOV/HOUSING](http://WWW.SEATTLE.GOV/HOUSING)

## Making a Difference in People's Lives:

After 23 years in the aerospace industry, followed by a decade of homelessness, **Martell Conley** told a crowd at the Compass Center capital campaign kick-off, that he's getting his life back in order. "The people at the Compass Center don't abandon you," he said. "I have goals, there are things I want to do now. I want to do something purposeful. I want my life to count." Compass Center's combination of housing and support services is an example of the kind of supportive housing the Seattle Office of Housing would like to see increased.

Homelessness is not simply a Seattle issue, and regional initiatives are attacking the problem. This year, the Corporation for Supportive Housing awarded a **\$325,000 grant** to the City of Seattle Office of Housing to support a statewide partnership that will expand the supportive housing pipeline by 300 units, integrate the financing of housing and services, and increase state and local investments in supportive housing. "Service-enriched housing is a critical component to stabilizing people who have experienced long-term homelessness and moving our vulnerable populations along a path of self-sufficiency," said Katie Hong, Director of the Seattle Office of Housing. For more information about the Taking Health Care Home initiative, please contact Tina Shamseldin (206) 733-9079.

## Building Strong & Healthy Communities:

Well-built, well-designed and sustainable affordable housing can help to create strong, integrated communities and revitalize distressed areas. Early in 2004, the Office of Housing will make the public announcement of a \$3.1 million funding allocation to two Seattle affordable housing developments that will provide 69 units for families, including homeless families and victims of domestic violence. Among the housing developments that either broke ground or opened recently are **Opportunity Place, Views at Madison, Tashiro Kaplan Artists Lofts** and **Rainier Vista**.

### Homebuyer NOFA

Funds available for affordable homebuyer projects.  
Contact Paula M. Benson (206) 684-3340

## Looking Ahead:

### February 12:

City Funding  
Pre-application Meeting.  
For info (206) 615-0995

### April:

Funding application  
deadlines

### April 1: City

**April 8: Sound Families**

**April 15: State**

### Get Involved:

**Mayor Nickels'  
Action Agenda  
for South Lake Union**

### Tools for Research:

#### 2000 Census Data:

In 1990's Seattle:

- Population increased significantly-9%
- Half of Seattle adults held a bachelor's degree
  - Homeownership stagnated, rents skyrocketed.

The Brookings Institution published a series of reports for 23 of the country's largest cities using Census 2000 data. **For Seattle's report.**

#### **Seattle Maps:**

Current zoning information on Seattle properties and neighborhoods is available from the online version of the **DPD Map Books**. These maps include parcel dimensions, plat changes, City landmarks, and general information on environmentally critical areas (ECA), including whether the site falls under State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) protection. Special overlay layers include urban village boundaries and 2,000' light rail overlay district. Additionally, a color-coded, bird's eye view of city-wide zoning is available. The City's **map and photo site** provides links to such things as planning and infrastructure maps, plus more general-use Seattle maps such as bike routes and Seattle Parks (as well as historic photos).

#### **Contact Us:**

**[Click here for a Seattle Office of Housing staff roster](#)**

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# Inside HOUSING

## **Housing in the Neighborhoods, South Lake Union:**

Mayor Nickels' action agenda for South Lake Union calls for the creation of jobs, parks, transportation links and neighborhood amenities. Some 20,000 jobs are projected to be created over the next two decades in South Lake Union, with up to 10,000 new housing units providing **homes close to work** for the people at all income levels employed there. For more information contact Rick Hooper (206) 684-0338

## **Getting Greener:**

Sustainable building practices are an essential part of our strategy for building a healthier community. The Seattle Office of Housing recently presented the first **SeaGreen Award to Traugott Terrace** for being the first affordable housing development to use the SeaGreen guidelines. And the Office of Housing won the NALHFA 2003 Meritorious Achievement/HOME Award for our work with Traugott Terrace, SeaGreen and sustainable building in affordable housing. For more information contact Joanne Quinn (206) 684-0304

## **House Key Plus Coming to Seattle:**

40 lower-income families will get the opportunity to purchase homes in Seattle in 2004, when House Key Plus Seattle kicks off in February. We recently partnered with the Washington State Housing Finance Commission to develop the House Key Plus program. This will combine \$800,000 of our HOME funds with \$600,000 of HFC Program Investment Funds to create a down payment assistance program for lower-income home buyers. For more information contact Paula M. Benson (206) 684-3340

## **Repair Loans and Weatherization Grants for Low-Income Home Owners:**

The Seattle Office of Housing's **HomeWise** program provides home repair loans for low-income homeowners and weatherization grants for low-income renters and home owners. In 2003, we weatherized more than 1,500 units with energy-efficiency improvements. To find out more about a weatherization grant or a home repair loan, call (206) 684-0244.